





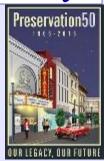
Main Street Monday!

The National Main Street Center has just released that presentations from the conference are now on line. I think you will find several that will be applicable to your community or some that you were unable to attend if you were in Milwaukee. To access them go to: http://bit.ly/28JoWJf



Several of you have asked about Scot. He's doing great. This is a stolen FB photo from Father's Day.

We're hiring! The National Main Street Center is looking for an experienced and dynamic professional to serve as Director of Urban Programs. This position will lead efforts to broaden our offerings and engagement in urban neighborhood commercial districts. Learn more about this great opportunity: http://bit.ly/28PhFVk





This is a big week in Main Street communities across the nation as we celebrate the businesses that are the heart of our Main St. communities and offer up the authentic downtown experience:

Funding Announcement!

The FY16 Underrepresented Community Grant applications from Heritage & Historic Preservation - NPS of the National Park Service are now available! Applications are due on July 15, 2016. Eligible projects include surveys, inventories, and designation of historic properties associated with communities underrepresented in the National Register of Historic Places and among National Historic Landmarks.

Perfect timing to celebrate Preservation50!

This program is part of a series of heritage initiatives that explore the ways in which the legacy of underrepresented groups can be recognized, preserved, and interpreted for future generations. Current estimates place the combined represent African-American, American Latino, Asian-American, and American Indian sites on the National Register of Historic Places - NPS and among National Historic Landmarks at less than 8 percent of the total listings.

Eligible applicants include State Historic Preservation Offices (National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers), Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, and #CertifiedLocalGovernments (National Alliance of Preservation Commissions), who may partner with others, including nonprofits and National Heritage Areas to ensure the broadest inclusion of all communities.

For more information on how to apply:

https://www.nps.gov/preservation-gran.../community-grants.html

I will be out of the office tomorrow and Thursday working with the NMSC. I will be out for the holiday July 1–6 and July 8-15th I will be in DC at the National Park Service training for tax credit reviewers with Jen Williamson and Mike Radeke. Next MSM will be Tuesday July 19th!



Kentucky Main Street Program Key to a Vibrant Downtown

Last week I was talking to a long-time resident about the articles I've been writing on behalf of DFI (Downtown Frankfort, Inc.). Suddenly she said, "I'll bet a lot of Frankfort residents don't know what DFI is, or what it does. "I'll bet you're right," I replied. With that in mind I asked DFI Executive Director Kim Strohmeier to answer the questions I figure most people would want answered about the organization.

When he's talking about DFI Strohmeier's enthusiasm is contagious. A big part of that enthusiasm is because of a personal connection.

"This isn't just a job, this is a passion of mine," says Strohmeier. "This is where I'm from; it's my community; it's my history. My grandparents are buried on a hill overlooking the city. My uncle was active in the arts community. My mother moved here in 1955 as a beautician in the little green gingerbread-style house on the corner of High & W. Main. My dad has been active in the farming and the tourism business all his life in this community. It's my home."

DFI was started in 1986 to expand the economic base of the downtown commercial district, preserve its historic character, and encourage people to support the local business owners. But Strohmeier sees the purpose of DFI as more far reaching.

"The downtown area is the heart and soul of any community. A healthy, prosperous, attractive downtown sets the standard for an entire community," Strohmeier says. He adds, "My ultimate goal would be to have every single resident of greater Frankfort and all of Franklin County think of downtown Frankfort as THEIR downtown, someplace they are proud of, someplace that they want to take visitors."

Strohmeier is quick to note he's standing on the shoulders of others. "Over the years, there've been a number of people who've had a lot of foresight as to what downtown can become. We're just building on past leadership." He cited Granville Coblin, John Gray, and the late Bob Polsgrove as early driving forces behind DFI.

While some are aware that DFI is behind the summer concert series, the Art Walks, and the Candlelight Event that kicks off the Christmas season downtown, I asked Strohemeier if he thinks the average Frankfort resident knows what DFI does.

"I don't think many people are aware of the economic development and preservation efforts that DFI has been involved with over the years. Just recently, we've helped promote and implement the city's Rehabilitation grants, which provided \$50,000 for twelve downtown property owners to improve their buildings!" DFI is also updating and improving the downtown building inventory system, which helps potential businesses know what space is available to them.

"People see a lot of empty storefronts. They stand out, and logically, people want to see them filled. What many don't recognize is that downtown had a net gain of four new businesses last year."

Strohmeier has an ambitious, but entirely accomplishable goal for downtown. "Long-term, I envision a vibrant downtown, full of thriving businesses, that makes full use of the resources we have – the river, the bourbon industry, the beautiful architecture, the history, the art, and most of all, our people."

Of course, people are the most important part of making this all happen.

"We have a volunteer committee promoting coordination with local distilleries for a better connection with downtown. Another group of volunteers is making a concerted effort toward a "cleaner" downtown. Yet another is working to increase downtown activity on Sundays, making us more attractive to weekend visitors."

"I think we need to recognize just what an impressive city we enjoy. To strive toward this long-term vision, we need members who are willing to show their support of downtown financially, but maybe more importantly, we need people willing to give some time and effort."

This article was written by Frankfort blogger Steve Silar and appeared in the Frankfort Journal.

Thanks for singing the praises of KYMS and DFI!





Farmer's Market in Downtown Paris!

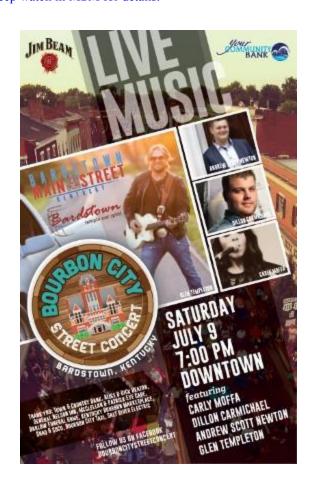


Cynthiana Main Street

With the support of Wedco District Health Dept., City of Cynthiana, Harrison Memorial Hospital and Cynthiana-Harrison County-Berry Joint Planning Commission, Main Street was awarded a grant from the state Department for Public Health making it possible to give away 10 bicycles and 48 helmets. Pictured is Lance Gallagher one of the bike winners. Also winning a bicycle... Gavin Johnson, Payton Martin, Miles Navarre, Kaitlyn Montgomery, Logan Baker, Rianna Taylor, Christopher Burden, Aaliyah Snapp, and Jenna Gaunce. Congratulations to all the winners. A new grant cycle will be coming up soon. Keep watch in MSM for details.

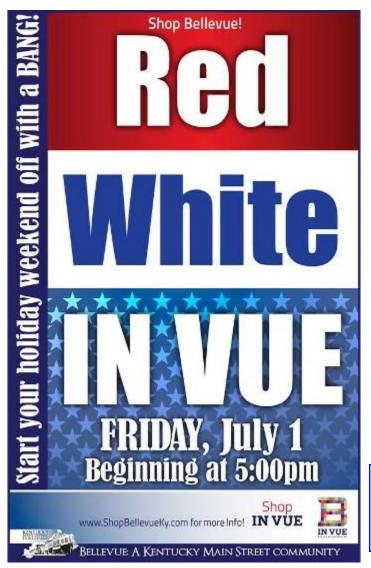


Paintsville Main Street held a Granny and Me Tea at the Historic Stafford house!











Information on the fall conference will be coming to you in mid July. I had hoped to have it this week, but due to circumstances beyond my control that was not possible. Every one have a safe and Happy 4th!!!